

D-8225

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No. _____

Section 1, Special Branch *Station*

REPORT

Date: November 4, 1938

Subject: Communication dated 28-10-38 from Major C.J. Corbin, S.V.C., concerning J.G. Vantchurin.

Made by D.S.I. Prokofiev.

Forwarded by

C. Crawford

Enquiries show that Joseph George VANTCHURIN was born in 1891 at Shuya, Vladimir Province, Russia. He is reported to have arrived in Shanghai from Vladivostok in 1918. Here he was employed with the Russo-Asiatic Bank, 15 The Bund, as an Assistant Exchange Manager until 1927 when the bank went into liquidation. In 1929-1930 he was connected with Bleeker & Weyler, Bill and Sullivan Brokers, 4 Kiukiang Road, and in 1931-1932 was a partner in the "Commonwealth Products Co., (Importers of Australian Products), 72 Szechuen Road. Severing his partnership with this firm in September, 1932, he established the "Australian Produce Co., at 6 Kiukiang Road, which was later removed to 320 Szechuen Road. This firm existed from 1932 to 1934. He is reported to have been investing capital in certain other commercial enterprises in Shanghai during the period from 1927 to 1935. It appears that on the whole he was not successful in his commercial activities and lost a considerable amount of capital. In 1935 he is reported to have left for Hongkong.

Vantchurin is registered with the Russian Emigrants' Committee, 118/1 Moulmein Road. His wife, Mrs Anna Mihailovna Vantchurin nee Michenbaum still resides in Shanghai together with children, her present address being 1377 Avenue Road, Apt. 315. She is the daughter of a Russian of Jewish origin named M.B. Michenbaum, local merchant, who is reported to have died in October, 1935 at Hongkong.

While in Shanghai Vantchurin did not come to the notice of the Municipal Police in connection with any activities of an undesirable character, except that in 1931, in connection

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.....

REPORT

.....Station,

Date 19

Subject (in full).....

-2-

Made by..... Forwarded by.....

with police investigations which followed a raid on the premises of the "International Merchants' Club", 90 Yates Road, where public gambling was conducted, he was mentioned as one of the persons who financed the club.

A. McKie

D. S. I.

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D. C. (Special Branch).

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Philippine Refining Company, Inc.

Cable Address: PHILRECO

General Office

1035 Isaac Peral. Manila, P.I.

October 19th, 1938.

Dear Major Corbin,

Since we left Shanghai in April, we have had eleven hectic weeks in London and are now settled here until April, 1940, so please make a note of our address and do not fail to let us know if ever you have a chance of coming to Manila. A spare bed is permanently at your disposal.

Incidentally this is also the address of the Wellborns, with whom you travelled across the Pacific; they send their greetings and enclose a letter.

I remember that Marvyn Reynolds once offered to look up some individual for me in the S.M.C. Police files and wonder whether you could possibly do the same thing. In a factory which we are acquiring, we will inherit an employee called J. A. Vantchurin, who is alleged to have come to Shanghai in 1918, to have been Assistant Exchange Manager of the Russo-Asiatic bank until it closed down about 1926. He then stayed for a few years in Shanghai, went to Hongkong and finally came to Manila in 1936. He is said to have a wife and family living in Avenue Road, Shanghai. At present, the poor man is doing a menial job for \$180 per annum and he seems to us by all accounts to be looking for something better. Before suggesting him, we would however like to verify his record, as it is possible that he

- 2 -

confirm his story and tell us anything either for or against him, it would be most useful as he is naturally an unknown quantity to us at present.

I do apologize for bethering you in this way and hope that it will not be much trouble.

Please remember me to Col. Hornby and say that we hope to see him here some time.

Life here is hot but peaceful and we are spared the alarms and excitements which you no doubt still have.

With very best wishes, I am,

Yours sincerely,

As E. Butler.



TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:
VOLUNCORPS SHANGHAI

HEADQUARTERS
SHANGHAI VOLUNTEER CORPS
180 FOOCHOW ROAD
SHANGHAI

18 Oct.

Dear Smyth,

I don't know whether
this is a fair question I mean the one
asked in the attached letter.

If it is I'd be very grateful if you could
let me have any information I can send on
to Butler.

Please let me have the letter back in due
course.

Yours ever

W. H. H. H.

CENTRAL REGISTRY

Return to SB.
Registry p.c.c.
DWO

FILE

to D. C. (Divisions)

November

7,

38.

Major C.J. Corbin,

S. V. C.

Dear Corbin,

With reference to your letter dated October 28, 1938, I forward herewith a copy of the information obtained regarding J.A. Vastolmurin. Nothing in it is detrimental to his character and there is no reason why you should not forward it to your friend in Manila.

Mr. Butler's letter is returned as requested.

Yours sincerely,

RM/

No. S. E.
Date

MEMO.

D C Dms

There is nothing to
the detriment of
Vantehuren in attached
report and no harm
would come of giving
it to the public.

John Robertson

D. C. Special Branch.

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